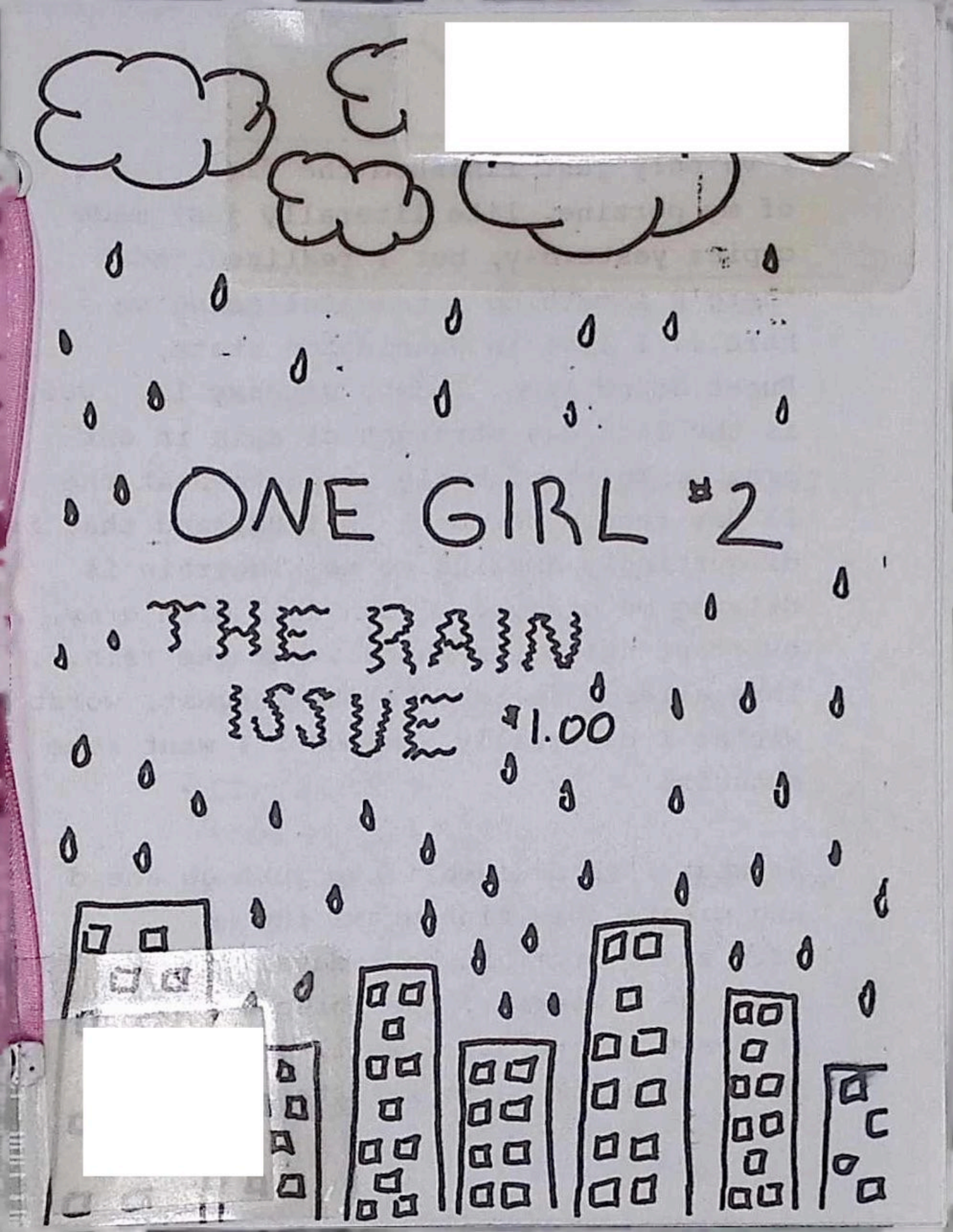

ONE GIRL #2
THE RAIN ISSUE
$1.00

I've only just finished the first issue of my perzine, like literally just made copies yesterday, but I realized today there's something monumental going on here... I live in Washington state, Puget Sound area. Today, January 11, 2006, is the 24th day straight of rain in our area... We're probably going to beat the 33 day record set back in 1953, and that is disgustingly amazing to me! The rain is driving me crazy... I can deal with grey, overcast skies somewhat... but the rain... This already feels like the longest, worst winter I can really remember. I want some sunshine!

So what I've decided is to just go ahead and create this zine until the rain ends. It might be 2 days, it might be 2 weeks... The forecast shows at least 5 more days. We'll see. For now I need something else to focus on.

While creating this zine I was:

READING

Zines:

Erik and Laura-Marie Magazine #33

Elephant Mess #15

Suburban Blight #6

Book:

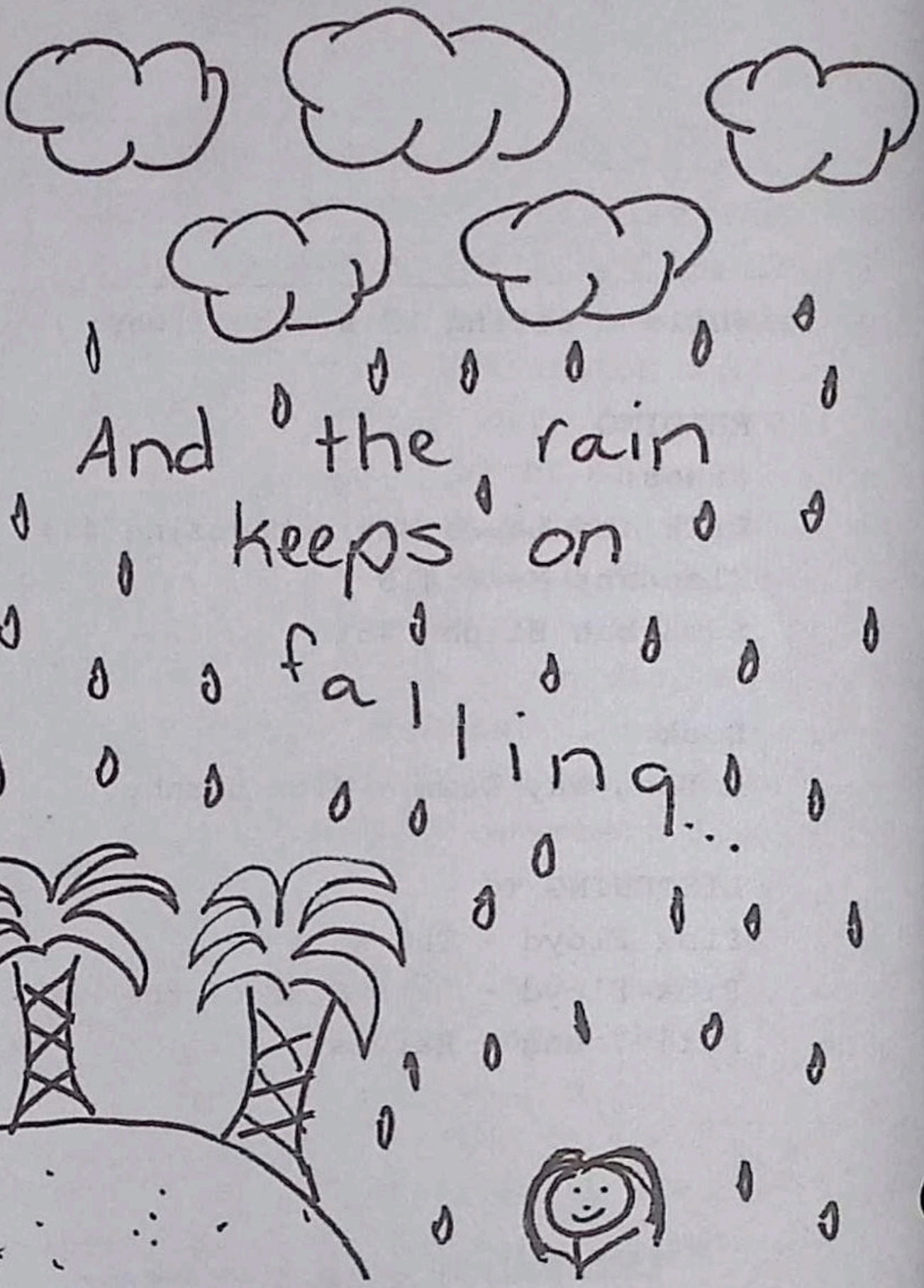
A Long Way Down - Nick Hornby

LISTENING TO

Pink Floyd - The Wall

Pink Floyd - Dark Side of the Moon

Neil Young - Harvest


And the rain
keeps on
falling...

I was just at the drugstore making copies of my zine. There was a lady next to me making copies and she had her stuff spread everywhere, so naturally I looked over. I noticed she had a familiar looking form sitting there and then I realized it was a tip log from the day spa I used to work at. I also realized she must have been the person the hired to replace me when I quit.
She was an older lady, nice looking! She started having some trouble and asked me i I knew anything about the machines, so I helped her! I felt really good about it and didn't hold it against her that she wo a meanie!

My boyfriend and I are complete thrift store junkies. We love thrift stores because the merchandise is always changing and there's usually a bargain to be found. We try to get out at least once a month, but mostly more often. I usually look for books, unique kitchen stuff, and unique knick-knacks. I love to look at furniture but we have way more than enough as it is, so now we should probably move to a bigger house! A few months ago I found a Homer Simpson alarm clock that was really cool and in perfect condition, for 8 bucks! I really liked it but my dad likes Homer even more, so I gave it to him for his birthday. Last time we went out I found a music box that was the genie from the movie "Aladdin", for 5 dollars. That was in perfect

condition too. I was excited to find it because we had just watched a special about music boxes on "Antiques Road Show." My friend Hannah said somebody probably paid 80 dollars for that music box at the Disney store, and my guess would be she's right!

Sometimes I can not believe the stuff people just give away to thrift stores! I've gotten books 2 months after they came out for under a dollar. My boyfriend and I get just about everything we own in thrift stores and you would never ever be able to tell.

The unfortunate thing is that thrift store shopping has gotten way too popular in this area. I blame it on the whole Seattle-grunge thing that happened and I pretend didn't... So now everyone wants old stuff! A few years ago I was living in Nevada for a year. My friend Sara and I decided to hit up the few of the thrift stores there were! Everything was so cheap and there was one store where we could cram our bags with as many clothes as possible for 5 dollars. We found these matching brown long-john suits that had a button-up flap over the butts, so of course we had to get those! We later had a water gun fight in them, which was so fun!

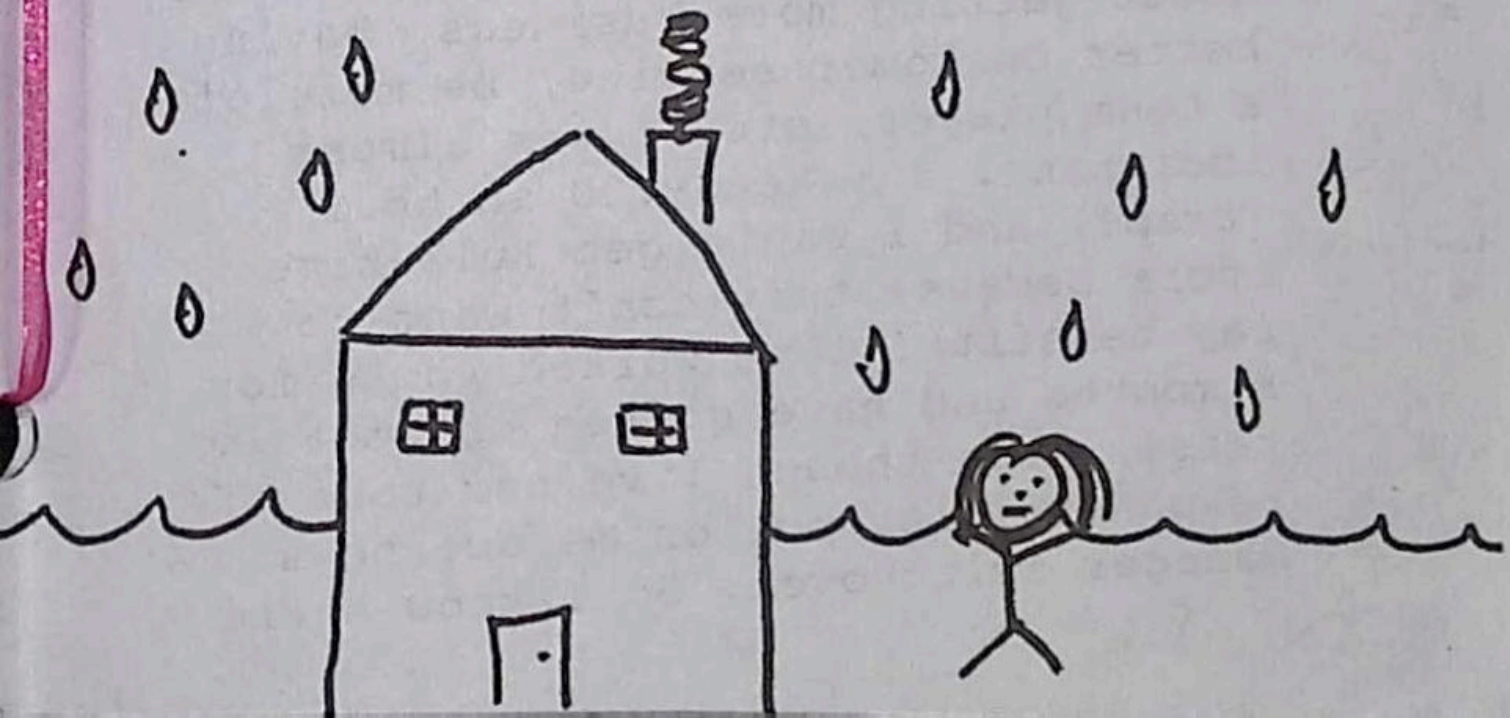
Thrift stores around here can get ridiculous though! There's one called Senior Thrift were the money goes to support seniors. They're the biggest with most selection, but they also charge outrageous prices for some of their things! Their staff is also very unfriendly and unhelpful. Once someone had broken some glass in a strange area and my boyfriend car upon it so he stepped clear over it. Then some guy practically jumped out of the woodwork and accused him of grinding the glass into the carpet, and some other worker lady had to jump in and subdue the guy. Strange!

My favorite thrift store is WAIF - all their proceeds go to the animal shelter. I find my best books there. Plus they have a different sale every day and if I go in there on 50% off books day, I can get 10 paperbacks for 5 dollars! They don't have much of a selection of anything else, but I did find a comfy pair of pajama pants last time we went.

The other thrift store is Good Cheer - they benefit the food bank. They have mostly clothes and that's pretty much where I find mine at. Their book selection is okay but hard to get to. They have another division in a different area called Good Cheer II and that's where we go to drool over the furniture. We also got a propane grill there for $30 and it's in great condition!

I'm surprised that some people think thrift store shopping is tacky or gross, because there's nothing wrong with buying stuff secondhand. I can kind of understand with clothes if you're weird about that, but dishes and other stuff... I save so much money by buying stuff at thrift stores! I almost never buy anything brand new!

and falling...



I work for a hotel that gets ton of summer business but very slooooow winter business. We belong to, not a chain, but a "collection" of inns, all managed by one company. Ms. C is the president of the company and she is very hands on. Some of our inns are located in California, along with the main office where Ms. C is. Well she flies out here to our other inns once every month or two! When Ms. C comes everyone is a flutter trying to make sure things are perfect.

Anyway, she was just here a couple of days ago and my manager decided we should have a staff meeting with Ms. C. She proceeded to sit us down for 2 hours, giving us a "pep talk" about getting more business, having better customer service, be more of a team player, etc. I was almost indignant. I make $9.00 an hour (crap!) and I can't get full-time hours because they don't want to pay benefits. I've worked there for 9 months and have gotten one measly raise, even though I've had tons of responsibility put on me during a manager switchover. So I know there

is absolutely no incentive for attempting to do my job better! Not to mention there is no tourism here in January! I'm so offended. I do my job so so so well and people have commented on that so many times, but still it's not enough! Work harder for no reward! I don't really like that, I think it's a little unfair. Working so hard to make her a buck... Why would I want to?

I really want to own a bed and breakfast someday, but that is for another time.

I quit smoking about 4 months ago and boy do I feel so much better! I started smoking when I was 18. It was something to keep me awake on nighttime drives between Bellingham and Seattle. I smoked Camels because I couldn't say Marlboro. Of course I continued to smoke until I had a pack a day habit and that gets expensive at over $5 per pack! I also got asthma and started having bronchial problems every year around Thanksgiving.

So I quit because it was my 23rd birthday and 5 years seemed like a good stopping point for that kind of habit. I haven't gotten sick yet this winter and although I do still have asthma, I don't wake up gasping for air in the mornings.

Smoking is one of those things that seemed cool when I started but turned out not to be. I wish I could convey that message to kids, but just like me, most kids don't listen. I still tell them not to start smoking though. If I could make a difference in one person's life...

My boyfriend still smokes and I wish he would quit, but that is a decision he needs to make for himself!

All people really want in life is validation from other people, to feel like they're worth something. Some people need it more than others, but I'd say being social is a basic human need. How many true loners are there? The *Unabomber was a loner and he was* also crazy. Not to say all loners are crazy, but he really did go out of his mind by himself.

Most everyone has at least one friend or person they can count on for support, even if they are anti-everything!

I just keep thinking about how I so much live inside my own head. I have a live-in boyfriend and I can tell sometimes he doesn't even know where I am, off in La La Land.

It's really hard to live up to what people want you to be sometimes. But most everyone still tries.

I don't really like to make new year's resolutions, but I do like to think of the new year as a fresh start!

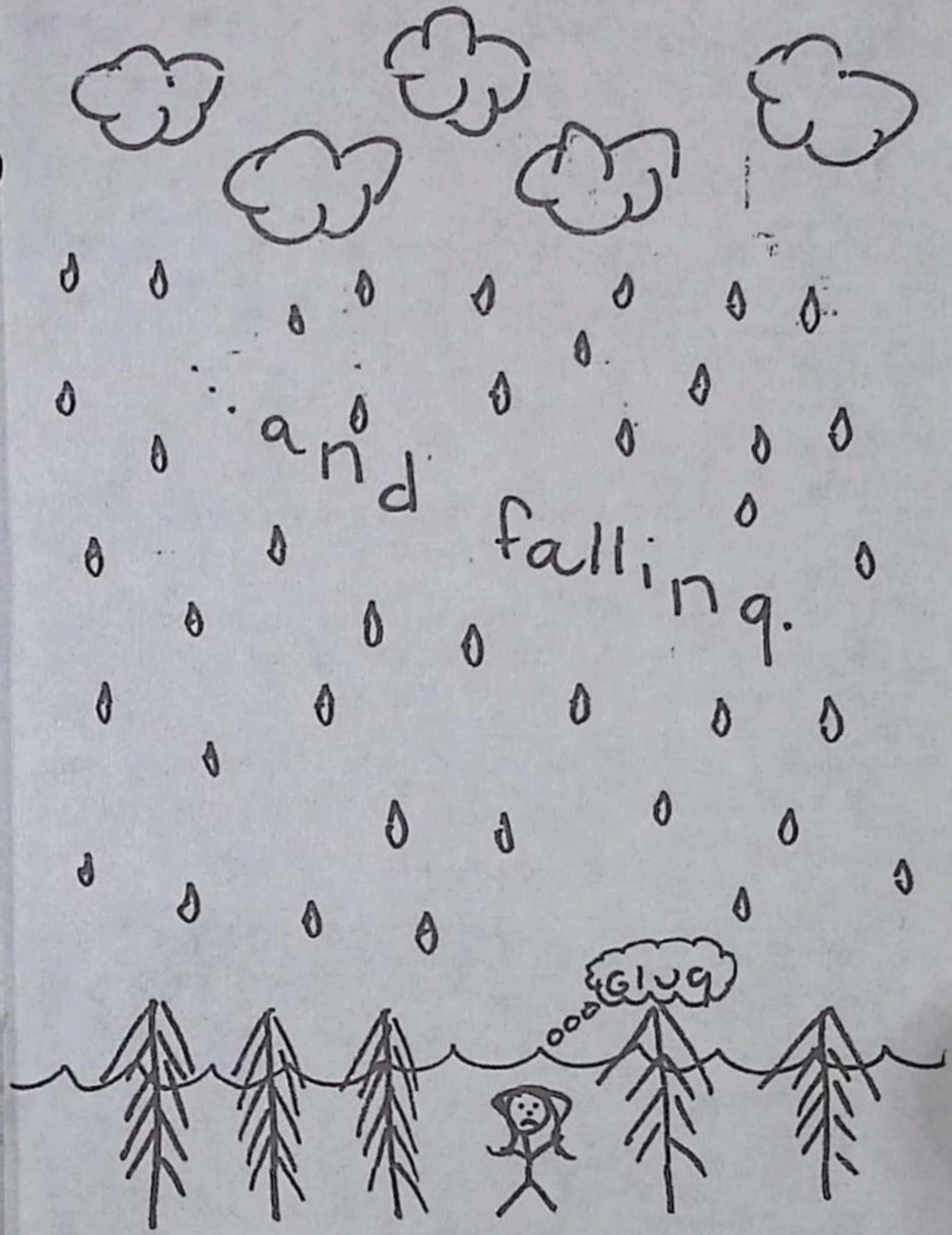
I did decide to kind of set some goals for myself this year.

I want to start keeping in touch with more of my family - there are a lot of them and all spread out! I think a reasonable goal would be either one phone call or letter a month per person.

I'm pretty bad about calling people because I pretty much despise talking on the phone. Sometimes it's just easier to write a letter (and quicker!) but then they never get sent because I don't get stamps. But running the distro has helped me because the post office is part of my routine now! I currently have 10 stamps in my purse, too.

My other goal is to remember people's birthdays. I can get so terrible about that and I feel bad because certain family members remember me every year.

I'm really lucky to have a wonderful extended family, strange as they may be. Sometimes family is all you have!


and falling.
GLUG

Well, our rainy streak is over, 28 days. Actually, the streak isn't over, just the part where we might have broken the record. It did rain here yesterday, but not in Seattle so I guess it doesn't count.

Winter is nowhere near being over. I know we're in store for more bad weather!

I hope you enjoyed this special issue of "One Girl" - let me know what you think!

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